

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

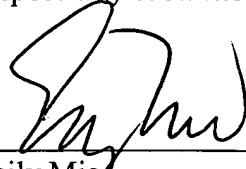
The Applicant and the undersigned representative wish to thank the Examiner and the Examiner's SPE Larry Schwartz for the personal interview on January 13, 2005 and for their efforts in expediting the prosecution of this application. During the course of the interview, the Applicant and the Examiners had discussed pending claims 23-70, the cited references, and proposals for amendments. The present claim amendments follow as a result of the discussion and were made to further clarify the invention. Support for the amendments can be found in the application as filed. See, for instance, page 1, lines 18-23; page 2, lines 14-15; page 3, lines 29-31; and Figure 1E. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced into the application as a result of the above amendments.

As discussed during the interview, the Applicant respectfully submits that the section 102(b) rejections of the claims based on Igaue (RE 35,687) ("Igaue") and Clarke (U.S. Patent 5,149,336) and the section 103 rejections of the claims based on Igaue and Paul (U.S. Patent 6,060,638) no longer apply and that the pending claims, as amended, are in allowable condition. The Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance for this application.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested and a favorable determination is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that this would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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